

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 10 of page 13 of the present application with the following amended paragraph:

Command 500 in Figure 5 also comprises attribute fields 511, which contain information regarding the type of information which the issuer of the command 500 seeks. In one embodiment, the type of information comprises system information such as, the SST, MGT, TVCT, and CVCT tables, and event information, such as the RRT, EIT, and ETT tables. In particular, attribute field 521 is the table_id attribute field. Attribute field 522 may contain three different types of information. First, the most significant byte (MSB) of the source_id attribute field, second the MSB of the rating region attribute field, and third the MSB of the ETM_id attribute field. By using a single attribute field ~~544~~ 522 to represent three different types of information (one at a time), this embodiment of the present invention saves memory space in the devices and reduces the size of the command 500 to be transferred between devices. Also, the command 500 does not need to reserve data space for invalid data.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 8 of page 14 of the present application with the following amended paragraph:

The issuer of the command 500 selects the desired table as follows. To select the MGT, the TVCT, the CVCT, or the STT, the table_id flag 502 is set by the command issuer. Additionally, the appropriate value is specified in the table_id attribute field 521. To select the Rating Region Table, the table_id flag 502 is set along with the rating region flag ~~504~~ 506. Additionally, the appropriate values are set in attribute fields 522 and 523.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 15 of page 14 of the present application with the following amended paragraph:

To select the Event Information Table, the table_id flag 502 and the source_id ~~503~~ 504 flag are set. Additionally, the appropriate value is set in attribute fields 522 - 523. To select the extended Text Table, the table_id flag 502 and the ETM_id flag ~~505~~ 508 are set. Additionally, the appropriate values are specified in attribute fields 522 - 525.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 21 of page 15 of the present application with the following amended paragraph:

In step 630, the controller 306 sets flags in the command flag field 501 to specify which table 190 is desired. These flags also describe what type of information is being represented in the attribute field 511. For example, if the rating region flag ~~504~~ 506 is set, then the value in the attribute fields 522 - 523 represent a rating region table. In this case, attribute fields 522 - 523 do not represent source_id or ETM_id table information. (As these fields can if other flags are selected.) Thus, an attribute field 511 may refer to different types of data, depending on the flags 501 which are set. However, no confusion will exist over the type of information which is being represented in an attribute field 511 for a given command 500.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 8 of page 16 of the present application with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 7 illustrates a flowchart of a process 700 of the tuner 308 determining what table 190 from the bit-stream 160 to return to the controller 308. In step 710, the controller 306 issues a command 500 to the tuner 308. In step 720, the tuner 308 checks to see if the table_id flag 502 is set. As this embodiment of the present invention requires this flag to be set for all requests, the tuner 308 will not return any table 190 if this flag 502 is not set. If it is set then, at step 730, the tuner 308 checks to see if the rating region flag ~~504~~ 506 is also set. If so, the tuner 308 references, in step 735, the values in attribute fields 522 - 523. These values are used to send back rating region table information to the controller 306. As only one table 190 may be returned per command 500, the process then goes to the end step.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 20 of page 16 of the present application with the following amended paragraph:

If the rating region table flag ~~504~~ 506 was not set, then at step 740, the tuner 308 checks the ~~event information~~ source_id flag ~~503~~ 504. If it is set, then the very same attribute fields (522 and 523) used in step 735 for rating region attributes are now used, in step 745 for event table attributes. The tuner references these attribute fields 522 - 523 and returns an event table 190 to the controller 306. This concludes command processing as only one table 190 may be returned per command 500.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 2 of page 17 of the present application with the following amended paragraph:

If the event-information-table source_id flag ~~503~~ 504 was not set, then the tuner 308 checks for the ETM_id flag ~~503~~ 508. If it is set, then the tuner 308 references attribute fields 522 - 525. Using that information, the tuner 308 returns an ETM table 190 to the controller 306. Because the ETM attribute field overlaps with other attribute fields in the command structure, the command is compact and hence efficient. Again, the process ends here after the table 190 is returned to the controller 306.